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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **YMCA Youth & Family Services Awarded Montgomery County Wraparound Contract**

**Silver Spring, MD, April 14, 2015** – YMCA Youth & Family Services (YMCA YFS) is proud to announce that it has been awarded the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families' contract for Care Coordination using the Wraparound Approach. Since December 1, 2014, YMCA Youth & Family Services has been providing high fidelity, comprehensive care coordination services for families throughout Montgomery County.

While Wraparound is often described as a program, it is actually a family driven process resulting in a set of individualized community services and natural supports to achieve a positive set of outcomes. The process targets school-age children and youth under 21 years of age who have complex and intensive mental health, substance abuse and other behavioral needs. These needs prevent the youth from successfully functioning in their home, school and/or community and require the resources of multiple agencies and/or professional disciplines to prevent long-term out-of-home placements. This strengths-based approach with children and families, allows for youth to be cared for in the context of their families and gives them ownership in the decision-making process.

"We believe that our agency is uniquely positioned to work with families using the wraparound approach given our extensive history of providing culturally-based social services to youth and families in Montgomery County. We look forward to expanding our relationships with other community-based programs in order to provide the highest caliber of services possible", says Carson Henry, Executive Director, YMCA Youth & Family Services.

Referrals to Montgomery County's Wraparound Program are handled through the Local Care Team (LCT), using a standard referral form, available here: <http://www.collaborationcouncil.org/PDF/CWIN-Referral-Form.pdf>. After determining a family's eligibility, the LCT shares the referral with YMCA Youth & Family Services who enrolls the family, typically for a 12-month period of time.

A major component of the YMCA Youth & Family Services County Wraparound Program is the provider network which consists of a diverse group of clinical and other service providers. Current and potential providers are invited to attend an open house at the YMCA's Gaithersburg office, located at 640 East Diamond Ave, Suite C, Gaithersburg, MD on April 28, 2015 from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Funding for this program is made possible in partnership with the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc., and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.

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### **About YMCA Youth & Family Services**

YMCA Youth & Family Services is a community-based, comprehensive social services branch of the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington. YFS provides school and community-based prevention and early intervention services to at-risk and under-served children and families from across Montgomery County, MD. For over 40 years, YFS programs have been addressing basic social-service needs, teaching fundamental life skills and assisting participants in making healthy choices. For more information, please visit <http://yfs.ymcadc.org/> or follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/ymcadcyfs>.

### **About the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc.**

For over 20 years, the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families has brought together public and private service providers to address the needs of Montgomery County, Maryland's children under the age of 18, and their families. Designated as a Local Management Board by the State of Maryland, the Montgomery County Collaboration Council's purpose is to be a catalyst so that agencies and other groups can collaborate to achieve positive results in the community. For more information, please visit <http://www.collaborationcouncil.org/about.html>.